

Disclosed are compositions and processes for preparing polymeric materials having polymerizable units derived from at least one C_8 to C_{30} alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer, and at least one chain branching unit. The presence of the chain branching unit suprisingly results in the polymeric composition having non-gelled polymer chains. The polymeric compositions are useful as additives for improving the melt strength of thermoplastic resins.